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NEWS RELEASE

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**Court of Appeals Appoints New Bankruptcy
Judge for Western District of Washington**

SAN FRANCISCO — Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit announced today the appointment of Seattle attorney Marc L. Barreca to serve as a judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington.

Mr. Barreca, who will be sworn into office July 12, 2010, will have chambers in Seattle. He will fill a judgeship left vacant by the retirement of Bankruptcy Judge Thomas Glover, who leaves the bench on July 10, 2010.

“Mr. Barreca has extensive experience as a bankruptcy attorney and has sought to improve the practice of bankruptcy law as an active member of various professional organizations. We are very pleased to have him join the Washington bankruptcy bench,” Judge Kozinski said.

Mr. Barreca, 55, is currently a partner with the law firm of K & L Gates LLP (formerly Preston Gates and Ellis) and has been with the firm since 1987. His practice includes representing Chapter 11 creditor committees and debtors-in-possession; secured and unsecured creditors and municipalities in commercial bankruptcy cases; buyers of assets from bankruptcy estates; creditors and debtors in workout negotiations; and commercial and municipal clients. Prior to joining K & L Gates, Mr. Barreca was an associate representing consumer and small business debtors in Chapter 7, 11, and 13 cases from 1985 to 1987.

A Seattle native, Mr. Barreca received his B.A. from the University of Washington in 1977 and his J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law, graduating with honors in 1983. He was a member of the UW Law Review and received the American Jurisprudence Award in administrative law, torts and real property.

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Mr. Barreca has been named as one of Puget Sound's top bankruptcy attorneys by Seattle Business magazine and was selected for the 2007 Best Lawyers in America in bankruptcy and creditor-debtor rights. He was also named "Super Lawyer" by Washington Law and Politics.

Mr. Barreca is actively involved in professional activities, serving as chair of the American Bar Association Business Law Section's E-Commerce Technology Bankruptcy Subcommittee and chair of the Washington State Bar Association's Creditor-Debtor Law Section. He served as president, Consumer Education and Training Service; member, Bankruptcy Section, Federal Bar Association, Western District of Washington; member, American Bankruptcy Institute; member, Turnaround Management Association; and a volunteer, Debt Clinic, King County Bar Association.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington is authorized five judges. In 2009, the court received 24,217 bankruptcy filings, a 49 percent spike from the previous year.

Judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit have statutory responsibility for selecting and appointing bankruptcy judges in the nine western states that comprise the Ninth Circuit. The court uses a comprehensive merit selection process for the initial appointment and for reappointments. Bankruptcy judges serve a 14-year, renewable term, at a salary of \$160,080, and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the Bankruptcy Code.

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